



#8/3-29-02

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Nobuaki HASHIMOTO

Application No.: 09/720,860

Filed: January 2, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE
THEREOF, CIRCUIT BOARD AND ELECTRONIC INSTRUMENT

Group Art Unit: 2807

Examiner: Luan C. Tha

Docket No.: 108102

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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In reply to the Restriction Requirement mailed February 26, 2002, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-11, drawn to a device, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-26 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:EDM/gam

Date: March 25, 2002

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